

Ms. A. 1. 1. 1.
Rev. A. J. J. J.

Boston, April 3, 1853.

Dear Mr. Estlin;

I have been much favoured recently - I
do esteem it, you may be sure - in receiving two full
& unusually interesting letters from you; - one of
March 3^d, rec^d, Mar. 22^d - the other of March 11th, rec^d
28th. I think we shall all be cautious not to
misunderstand or misuse the information you give us
of persons and things in England. It is of no little
interest to us; - we sympathize ^{with} you warmly in
your hopes, as well as in your labours, and we
agree with you in the earnest wish that the
anticipated good may be realized - that the Controlling
Powers of the B. & F. Society may consent that a just
and even a friendly spirit, towards the Antislavery
movement in this country, shall pervade their
paper & influence their ^{official} doings; & that, if they
cannot have or express these feelings ^{individually} ~~themselves~~, they
will at least be willing to suppress the contrary feeling.
This seems almost too much to expect however.
We do not doubt that you ~~rightly~~ estimate Mr.
Chameroovow; but, (perhaps somewhat for the same
reason which leads us to believe that the Ethiopian cannot
change his skin) we are rather slow to anticipate
anything very liberal, in the first place, or cordial to us,
in the second, from the Guineys, Alexanders, &c, who
value so highly their respectable position, and ^{who} have
no idea of compromising it, by coming into collision
with Powers, & Principalities, & Dignities, ^{either in Church or in State.} - But things
have gone so far now, that, let them turn out as
they may, good can hardly fail to result to the
A. S. cause. If the B. & F. Committee get along

and essay to put a bridle upon Mr. C., there
will be very likely to grow out of it a more
resolute examination of the whole subject, and
that, we know, we have no cause to fear. I
have examined the 'Reporter', as it came along,
(down to the March No.), and have been pleased
to see allusions & quotations, respecting paper &
men friendly to us, just as they would have been
made of others. All that you say, and all that I
have seen, ~~of Mr. C.~~ leads me to think that Mr. C.'s
spirit is a good one; - exceedingly unlike the
hard, bitter, bigoted, & malignant spirit of John Scoble.
- I fear that Mr. Gay, in a recent Standard, rather
overshot the mark, in a paragraph designed to
correct an alleged misrepresentation of Scoble's con-
nexion with the Dawn Institute, - and I wrote him so.
He replied that he knew Scoble thoroughly, and had
only intended to ~~express~~ convey the meaning that J.
S. denied the statement. - (I think, however, he went
a very little beyond that.) He said that Scoble & he
had a talk of some hours over the many things which
had transpired in the history of the cause - what Gay
called a perfectly "free meeting" - and that when Scoble
left him, it was with the remark that he supposed
~~that~~ he must understand the Amⁿ Antislavery Socy
still regarded him as an enemy, - to which Gay
assented. - Gay thought I would not call upon him
again, unless the 'Standard' contained something
about E. Matthews, which he wished to contradict, or
complain of. - I hope to get the resolutions (printed)
about E. Matthews, inserted in this week's Liberator. -
The crowded state of the paper, for many weeks back,
has been unusually inconvenient.

The morning after receiving yours of Mar. 3^d, I had a fine opportunity of sitting down with Mr. Garrison, and I read him carefully every word of it. He was interested & gratified, & responded very heartily to your view of the course which the Liberator, & others of our papers here, should pursue towards the B. & F. Reporter & its New Editor. I feel very sure you will have no cause to complain of the Liberator, &c. I have not yet had a good oppo. to read over the second one with him (that of March 11th ~~relating~~ relating to E. Matthew) but shall get one soon. — Anne Weston has seen both letters. E. Quincy has seen the latter, and I intend showing him the former. Then I shall send them both to W. Phillips (at Northampton, 100 miles inland), — and afterwards to L. H. Gay. All these will be the better for the full information, and may be trusted not to use it indiscreetly. — And let me, for myself, thank you for giving those full particulars about E. Matthew. I was saying to Garrison, & only a few days previous, that I never had understood the grounds of Scoble's attack ^{upon him}, nor what E. M. had done to disgrace himself. I see it all now — and what a shameful & cold-blooded piece of conduct Scoble's was! It was a most ~~unjust~~ ^{cruel} & shabby trick. The disputed resolution is really of very little importance. I should not wonder, if one of the reasons for not passing it were, that it was little more than a repetition of the other res^{ns}, & of the Sheriff's certificate. The other res^{ns} are sufficient to strip J. Henson of his pretence to be the authorized representative of the Canada Fugitives — and that is the essential point. — I wish you could have been present at Matthew's interview with the Court. — It really was too hard for M. to be so attacked, and have no chance to defend himself, directly or by a friend. — I shall

advise with Garrison as to the best way of making
public these facts about Matthews. It appears to
me best, thus - first to publish the Utica resolution
in his behalf; these will be pretty likely to start up Mr.
Scoble. If he has anything then to say, we can
come down upon him with a full statement of his
behaviour towards E.M.; and, in this work, I shall
want permission to draw largely upon your last letter
I feel quite like entering upon the work. - I doubt
if Mr. L.G. really understood just what the trouble about
E.M. was. I knew there was a charge of dishonesty -
that you had told me ~~of~~ - but as to what the dishonesty
consisted, & how they made him so flagrant an offender
for a very trivial & even innocent thing, I could not
conjecture. - I see now that he should have indicated
(in those 8 copies distributed), in some way, that one resolution
was said not to have been passed; but, it was of really
so little consequence, that I do not wonder that I
thought nothing about it. -

When I ^{had} read your first letter, and also your
daughter's to Miss Weston ~~accompanying~~ (as ^{she} gave me
leave to do) - I felt very much concerned for you both.
To think of you, obliged to write half your letter in bed,
and of your daughter, exhausted & unable to sit up,
troubled me a good deal. I feared to hear you were
both seriously ill. But your next made no mention
of your health in any way; and I hope a few days
rest quite restored you both. - As I had read all
letter to Mr. Garrison, I thought I might extend my own
permission to read Mary's to Miss W., so as to include Mr. G.
and I did so. - His expressions of admiration at your
courage & perseverance - at your labours, at home, and
London - were very warm. - You did indeed

do your work in London in a thorough manner. Delightful meetings must there have been in Cecil St. - quite a "Board Meeting" I doubt not, as we say at 21 Cornhill, when we get round the green-baize-top table, on benches, settees, & chairs & debate and vote, - with the agreeable addition^{in your case} of time enough to talk, & enjoy the whole. I am grateful for leave to read your daughter's letter; - I burned some midnight oil over those two letters, - We continue to wonder that, with your feeble health, you can do so much.

Mr. Stone sailed from here on Wednesday last - not in good health. The 'Key' not yet published. We expect it in one week. It will appear simultaneously in England - about the time of her arrival, I suppose. I wrote to Mr. Webb what had been done ^{here} to enlighten her as to the position of things in Scotland, &c., & asked him to send you that letter, as you might like to see what I said on the subject. -

The Pro-slavery Black Coats are beginning their Spring flight to England. Yesterday there sailed from New York Rev. Dr. Vinton, pastor of St. Paul's in this city - Episcopalian, a rigid formalist, never known to utter a word ~~in favour of~~ for the Slaves. Also, Rev. Dr. Nelson, ^(my nearest neighbour) pastor of the Orthodox Cong^l. Church in Leicester, a man with whose dough-facedness, & twisting & turning, & ~~old~~ purpose to go with the current, wherever that set, I had to contend 12 years; and now have to regret that I did not speak out more ^{frequently & more} plainly against him. I have often however, in private & in public, remonstrated & rebuked. He is servile to the Sectarian spirit to the last degree, & has steadfastly kept Antislavery out of his Church & his Pulpit.

inclined to look favourably on the Conquest and
Annexation of Texas, as opening a door to the intro-
duction of the Bible & our holy Religion into that country.
- He is a prominent Congregationalist, & annually joins
in sending delegates to, & receiving delegates, from the
Presbyterian Churches, which are openly Slaveholding.
He is a slippery old fellow, & avoids so far as he can
greatly offending anybody. He is like the sailor in
the storm, who prayed alternately 'Good Lord', & 'Good
Devil' - not knowing, as he said, into whose hands he
should fall. - I asked him, ~~last~~ ^{upon} last at Leicester
if he intended to be present at any of the religious an-
niversaries in London, in May. He avoided a direct reply,
but ~~he~~ it will be his ambition to figure largely in
Exeter Hall, I am confident. ^(It's not particularly in the speech-making way,) I have written to an Orthodox
Minister in Worcester - an early & firm Anti-slavery man
suggesting that he communicate to Mr. Channing or
to Mr. Grant of the Advertiser, what he knows of Dr.
Nelson. - There was (& he still lives I think) a Rev. Dr.
Nelson, a Slaveholder, who emancipated his slaves, &
took them with him to a free State, - behaving most nobly.
I needn't say this is not that man. -

By the way, we now have as an Ally, and as one
of our Lecturing Agents, the Rev. Andrew T. Fols, who
joined with E. Matthews, in compiling the "Facts for Baptist
Churches". If you will, at your early convenience
communicate to me E.M.'s unbiassed opinion of A.T.
as a consistent, reliable, trusty man, I will be greatly
obliged.

Charles L. Remond is proposing a visit to England this
year. - That is a good fellow - rather self-opinionated and
a little too much given to finery in dress, but

an intelligent & clear-sighted friend of the cause
(P.S.) on most points, and I think may help it a good deal
to beat himself right down

April 11, '53. Many cares, & especially my wife's poor health
(she is very subject to dyspepsia, especially at this time of the year) have
compelled a delay of this letter which I did not design. & wh. I regret
I have not been able to write.